each from October, 1988 onwards. The company has been paying interest at 17 per cent per annum payable quarterly.

Bid for acquiring ACC convertible debentures by Kachhaldara Trading Limited

2471. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:
SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the cover page of Illustrated Weekly of India of June 26—July 2, 1988 issue under the heading ACC-what Went Wrong regarding Rs. 7 crore bid for acquiring ACC convertible debentures by Kachhaldara Trading Limited;

(b) whether it is a fact that Kachhaldara Trading Limited is a 100 per cent subsidiary of Bombay Burmah Trading Corporation Limited, whose Chairman is a British citizen;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Unit Trust of India/Banks advanced the said amount for purchasing of convertible debentures of ACC in contravention of Government's policy that public financial institutions shall never extend loans to private companies for acquiring shares of other companies; and

(d) if so, whether Government will hold an inquiry into the matter and arrange to get back the loans given to Kachhaldara Trading Limited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House

Income-tax arrears

2482. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

a) the income-tax arrears of Indian Film personalities and Central Ministers, if any; and

(b) the details of the income-tax raids conducted during the last six months and the results achieved;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) Income-tax arrears in respect of Film personalities who owe more than Rs. 10 lakhs each are Rs. 10.88 crores as on 31-3-1988 (out of which Rs. 7.48 crores had either not become due for payment or recovery thereof had been stayed).

Regarding income-tax arrears of Central Ministers, all of them are not assessed at any particular place since they may be filling their tax returns where they were assessed prior to becoming Central Ministers. There is no special cell in the Department where such information regarding Central Ministers is collected and collated. However, income-tax demand of Rs. 16,146/- only is outstanding against Central Ministers assessed at Delhi.

(b) During the period Ist February, 1988 to 31st July, 1988, 3574 searches were conducted. Assets worth Rs. 81.28 crores were seized. Concealed income to the tune of Rs. 125.35 crores was surrendered during the course of these searches.

Crimes in Union Territories

2483. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the number of crimes reported in all the Union Territories of India during the last six months alongwith details thereof and the position last year during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): The requisite information is contained in the statement attached.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the Union Territory	No. of Total Cognizable Crimes reported under IPC during 1-1-87 to 30-6-1987	No. of Total Cognizable Crimes reported under IPC during 1-1-1988 to 30-6-1988
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	317	304
2.	Chandigarh	480	098
3.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	238	277
4.	Delhi	13,761	12,623
	Daman & Diu	N.A.	63
6.	Lakshadweep	17	N.d.
7.	Pondicherry	1,003	1,061
	TOTAL :	16,140	15,380g

NB (i) *Figures are based on monthly crime statistics.*

(ii) Goa attained the status of Statehood in May, 1987 thus was separated from the UT of Daman and Diu.

Spraying of copper fungicides in the rubber estates

2434. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that due to indiscriminate spraying of fungicides in the rubber estates of 10 years, a ten fold increase of the copper content has been reached in the rubber soils, which results in health hazards to the plantation and labourers;

(b) if so, what steps are contemplated to deal with the dangerous situation of high copper content of the soils where rubber is grown; and

(c) what is the permissible level of copper content in rubber soil and what is the present position in different plantation in our country where fungicides are used?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) to (c) The spraying of copper fungicides in rubber plantation is unavoidable in view of the necessity to control certain serious fungus diseases. The copper residue in certain rubber soils is reported to have increased from the initial 14 PPM to 77 PPM during the last 8 years. However no health hazards to plantation labourer working in these plantations have been reported so far. No permissible level has been fixed for copper content in the rubber soil because it is effective and economical copper spraying is carried out on plantation crops.

Export of man-made fibre

2435. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any concrete steps are taken for export of Polyester Staple fibre PFY, and other yarns in view of large unutilised capacity in certain sectors of industries in man-made fibre, after the declaration of export of these items;

(b) whether any export has materialised; and

(c) whether any administrative measures are taken to implement the announced Export Policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) Exports of Polyester Staple Fibre and Polyester Filament Yarn are allowed within a quantitative ceiling.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Cash Compensatory Support @ 5 per cent on Polyester Staple Fibre and @ 8 per cent on Polyester Filament Yarn has been announced with effect from 8-6-88. The annual ceilings for their exports in the current year have also been announced.